Capacity for Processing of beryllium Precision Components

2729. SHRI V. RAJESHWAR RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the country has the capacity for complete processing of Beryllium precision components;

(b) the names of other countries which can do this;

(c) what use these conponents are being put to; and

(d) what steps are being taken to make further advancement in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) beryllium facilities of the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (PARC) at Navi Mumbai have the capacity to process Beryl ore to produce vacuum not pressed Peryllium blocks and in machine these blocks to high precision components. These facilities cater to the needs of nuclear and space sciences. They also supply beryllium windows to Bharat Electronics Limited for their X-ray tubes.

(b) USA, the world leader in beryllium technclogy, processes the Mineral to produce hot pressed beryllium and finished precision componets.

European countries like the UK. France and Germany procure, the hot pressed beryllium from the USA and machine these to finished components. Russia and some of the East European countries are also well advanced in this field.

(c) The beryllium facilities produce high precision components required for the nuclear and space programmes, like components for rate integrated gyrcs, substracte for scan mirror, thruster brackets (for mounting booster rockets), neutron sources, x-ray windows, etc.

(d) The facilities are under augmentation to produce larger size beryllium components.

Units under Nuclear Power Corporation

2730. SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of units operating under the Nuclear Power Coporation and the total generation capacity thereof;

(b) the actual generation of powers, unit-wise; and

(c) the steps being taken/proposed to be taken to enhance the nuclear power generation in the country, in view of limited fossil stock?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Details of the operating units under Nuclear Power Corporation of India Ltd. with their present rated capacity and electricity generated upto 28.2.1997 are given below:—

Sl. No.	Station/Unit	Present generation capacity MWs	Cumulative Electricity generated upto Feb., 97 (MUs.)
1.	Tarapur Atomic Power Station—Unit—1	160	24180
	Unit—2	160	24473